which hath cost her about £100,000, and as for the Low Countries, they stood her in yearly, since she undertook the defence of them, £150,000

* All which,' quoth he, * her Majesty bestowed for the good of the Realm, to free us from war dt home Besides when her Majesty came to the Crown, she found it £4,000,000 indebted, her Navy, when she came to view it, greatly decayed yet all this hath discharged, and (thanks be to God) is nothing indebted, and now she is able to match any Prince in Europe, which the Spaniards found when they came to invade us Yea, she hath with her ships encompassed the whole world whereby this land is famous throughout all places She did find in her Navy all iron pieces, but she hath furnished it with artillery of brass, so that one of her ships is not a subject's but a petty King's As for her own private expenses, they have been little in building, she hath consumed little or nothing in her pleasures As for her apparel it is royal and princely, beseeming her calling, but not sumptuous or excessive The charges of her house small, yea, never less in any King's time '

After Sir Edward Stafford and Mr Francis Bacon had spoken, the whole House agreed to the committee

2jtb February UNREASONABLE DEMANDS FROM PRISONERS

The Queen hath been credibly given to understand that some that receive grants for the keeping of gaols and others to whom the charge of gaols is assigned have leased them out at exceeding great rents or other profits Thus their assigns are constrained to exact excessive prices for victual, bedding, fire, fees of irons and other things from poor prisoners, who for want of means to satisfy these unreasonable demands, so perish

through famine
for they remain in prison a long time after they are discharged of
the pnncipal cause of their commitment only for lack of ability
to defray the great sums exacted of them for such intolerable
impositions

The Justices of the Assizes at every place of gaol delivery in
the next circuit shall inform themselves thereof, and because
they will not have leisure themselves they shall appoint certain
of the discreetest Justices of the Peace, and such as be not
interested with the granters of the goods, to examine strictly